

Marine Fisheries Patrol Improvements**FY2003 Request: \$1,001,450****Reference No: 35825****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Public Protection**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Kenneth E. Bischoff**Election District:** Statewide**Contact Phone:** (907)465-4336**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2002 - 06/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Alaska State Legislature urged the Division to seek additional funding sources for its patrol efforts in Federal waters of the North Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea. This funding is a result of lengthy negotiations with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Federally regulated marine fisheries occur on a year round basis in the coastal and offshore waters of the State of Alaska. Both the Federal and State Governments share an interest in ensuring these fisheries are protected.

Funding:

	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$6,008,700
Total:	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$1,001,450	\$6,008,700

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	0	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

RPLs 12-2-0075 and 12-2-100 for a total of \$1,001,450 Federal Receipts were combined and approved as a single capital RPL by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee on October 23, 2001.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this funding is to recognize these enforcement burdens and pass monies made available through the Coastal Stewardship Act to the State to enhance their current patrols. It is recognized that the State maintains the assets and personnel for efficient patrols. Rather than create a redundant infrastructure, the Federal Government prefers to augment the State's programs.

Under the Coastal Stewardship Act monies are distributed to the National Marine Fisheries Services, Office of Law Enforcement for specific law enforcement intentions. Fish and Wildlife Protection (FWP) is the appropriate agency in Alaska for receipt of such funds.

State authorization to receive and expend NMFS federal funds for FY2002 has been approved by the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee under RPLs 12-2-075 and 12-2-100. The funds have never before been available to FWP. On-going negotiations have resulted in tentative approvals for the funding. The funds are anticipated prior to the close of the federal fiscal year and would be authorized for expenditure for one year after the date of signing a joint enforcement agreement detailing the purpose of the funding.

PROJECT NEED STATEMENT

This funding is consistent with long term State enforcement. For decades, the State has been delegated Federal enforcement authority in Federal waters. These fisheries are of common concern to both State and Federal managers. This funding demonstrates that the Federal government is concerned for enforcement presence and has agreed to share in the high costs of marine offshore enforcement. The efficiency measures and line item distributions are tentative at this time. Funding used for personal services costs will pay for additional premium pay (sea pay day and overtime, plus related benefits) due to the additional enforcement efforts that the division will provide.

This project will provide state authorization to spend the anticipated NMFS grant in federal FY2003. Congressional action will be required each year.

DOCUMENTATION OF ESTIMATED CAPITAL COSTS

Cost Breakdown for increased vessel sea days (197 days), aircraft flying hours (90 hours), increased seasonal man months (32 months), and investigative support (2 contract employees).

Personal Services:	\$	316,324
Travel:		24,008
Contractual:		54,579
Supplies:		206,539
Equipment:		400,000
Total Operating Costs:	\$	1,001,450

ANALYSIS OF ESTIMATED OPERATIONAL COSTS

This project will not result in any additional operating costs that will require state general fund appropriations. These federal funds cannot be used to reduce current state enforcement efforts.

PROJECT EVALUATION STATEMENT

Fish and Wildlife law enforcement in Alaska's coastal and offshore environments is of broad common interest to both the State and Federal governments. However, these large geographic expanses suffer an absence of Federal logistical support for patrolling, monitoring, and investigating fish and wildlife related activities and impacts. This is a critical issue for Federal enforcement priorities.

Even though Alaska's enforcement logistical capabilities are well beyond those available to the NOAA/OLE, the Division of Fish and Wildlife Protection is unable to broaden or increase its field presence without additional funding. In many case enhancing State funding will provide additional air and sea patrols during which State and Federal concerns can be met concurrently. Such improvement of existing State assets will be much more cost effective than developing similar assets in the Federal government.

